

11 February 2021

133 Molesworth Street PO Box 5013 Wellington 6140 New Zealand T+64 4 496 2000

Andrew Chen

By email:

fyi-request-14389-ad228917@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref:

H202100052

Dear Andrew Chen

## Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health on 4 January 2021 for:

"I'd like to request information about the total amount of funding allocated to digital contact tracing (and specifically the NZ COVID Tracer app), with separate line items for development costs and advertising/marketing costs, as well as details about how the funding/budgets for digital contact tracing changed throughout 2020 as the government responded to COVID-19."

Information regarding the development of the NZ COVID Tracer application is available at: <a href="https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-resources-and-tools/nz-covid-tracer-app/privacy-and-security-nz-covid-tracer.">www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-resources-and-tools/nz-covid-tracer-app/privacy-and-security-nz-covid-tracer.</a>

A breakdown of the estimated costs for the COVID-19 Tracer application is included in the table below. The total amount of \$6.425 million is the total estimated costs budgeted up to 30 June 2021, confirmed as at 31 December 2020. Please note that the figures in the Table 1 have been rounded.

Category of Expenditure	Total estimated cost (million)
Development of the application	\$2.775
Technology enablers (covers temporary surge capacity for support desk to monitor calls from the public in relation to the application)	\$1.668
Support resources (project management and IT architecture support for the Ministry in the development of the application)	\$1.676
Security	\$0.305
Total	\$6.425

Please note that the cost for "technology enablers" in table 1 includes total estimated costs for marketing of up to \$350,000.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: <a href="mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz">info@ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: <a href="www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests">www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests</a>.

Yours sincerely

Gaynor Bradfield

Manager, Office of the Deputy Director-General

**Data and Digital**